Proposition 1: Approved 11/16/2019

Amend TITLE VI, Canon 1, Section II(c), Section III(b), and Section III(f) of the Canons of the Diocese of Long Island

Resolved, that Title VI, Canon 1, Sections II (c), III (b) and III (f) of the Canons of the Diocese of Long Island be amended to read as follows:

CANON 1
THE STANDING COMMITTEE

SECTION I. Duties. The Standing Committee (the "Standing Committee") of the Diocese (or only the clerical members thereof as set forth in the National Canons, the Diocesan Canons, or by law) shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as may be prescribed by the Diocesan and National Canons, and law, including but not limited to acting as the Council of Advice to the Bishop with respect to matters involving the National Canons, Diocesan Canons, and ecclesiology, consenting to the election of Bishops, recommending to the Bishop ordinations to the Priesthood and to the Diaconate, recommending to the Bishop acceptances of candidates for Holy Orders, consenting to the encumbrance or alienation of property, and acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority in the absence of the Bishop.

SECTION II. Composition, Manner of Selection and Terms, Qualifications, Removal and Vacancies.

(a) Composition. The membership of the Standing Committee shall always be comprised of an equal number of clerical and lay members. The Standing Committee shall be composed of a total of eight members, four of whom shall be clerical members and four of whom shall be lay members. Each of the members of the Standing Committee shall be elected by the Diocesan Convention, two of whom (one clerical and one lay) shall be elected annually as set forth below.

(b) Manner of Selection and Terms.

(i) General Provisions. The eight members to be elected by the Diocesan Convention shall be divided into four classes consisting of two members each and each class shall consist of one clerical member and one lay member. Each member to be elected must obtain a majority of votes in both the clerical and lay orders. When the terms of the members of each class expire, replacements will be elected at each subsequent annual Diocesan Convention for full four-year terms as set forth above, and so on thereafter; provided that no person shall be elected to serve more than two full terms in succession. Clerical members shall be canonically resident in the Diocese. Lay members shall be adult communicants in good standing of this Church and domiciled in the Diocese. No member shall be paid any
salary or receive any remuneration of any kind whatsoever by virtue of his status as a member of the Standing Committee.

(ii) **Rotating Membership; Founding Board.** At the first annual Diocesan Convention following adoption of this provision, two members will be elected for four-year terms. In addition, and in order to begin and continue the process of a rotating and staggered membership on the Standing Committee, at the first annual Diocesan Convention following adoption of these provisions, the eight members of the founding members of the Standing Committee shall be comprised of those incumbents (who were previously elected in four classes consisting of two members each, being one clerical and one lay member) who has not served out his full term and who has not declared his intent to resign from the Standing Committee prior to such Diocesan Convention. In such event such member shall continue as a member of the Standing Committee until completion of his/her full term or until such member shall have resigned, and there will be no nominations or elections for persons in such class.

(c) **Removal and Vacancies.** Standing Committee members shall continue in office until replaced by the Diocesan Convention. Any member of the Standing Committee may be removed, with cause, by a majority vote of the members of the Diocesan Council and a majority vote of the members of the Standing Committee. If vacancies on the Standing Committee occur, they shall be filled by persons elected by the majority vote of the remaining members of the Standing Committee and the person or persons elected shall serve in the unexpired terms until successors have been duly elected by Diocesan Convention.

SECTION III. **Meetings.** The By-laws of the Standing Committee shall contain the following provisions:

(a) **Frequency.** The Standing Committee shall meet at least six times annually and at such other times, as it deems necessary.

(b) **Annual Meeting; Election of Officers.** The first meeting of the Standing Committee shall be convened by the President of the Standing Committee no more than four weeks following the annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention. In addition to the President, who shall be a member of the clerical order, the Standing Committee shall, at its first meeting, elect one or more Vice Presidents, Secretaries, and other officers to serve until the first meeting of the Standing Committee following the next annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention, and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

(c) **Summons of Meeting.** The Standing Committee shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop, whenever the Bishop shall desire their advice, and the Standing Committee may meet of its own accord, when it may be disposed to advise the Bishop.
(d) **Acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority.** Whenever the Standing Committee shall be acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority, the disciplinary powers and duties of the Bishop shall devolve upon it; **provided, however,** that whenever such powers are vested in the clerical members of the Standing Committee they shall be exercised by such members alone; and **provided, further** that no sentence shall be pronounced on a Priest or Deacon except by a Bishop.

(e) **Meeting for Actions; Council of Advice.** In all cases in which a National Canon or a Diocesan Canon directs a duty to be performed, or a power to be exercised, by the Standing Committee, the Standing Committee must meet as one body. Whenever the Standing Committee shall be acting as the Council of Advice to the Bishop and in all other cases, the Standing Committee may act without a meeting, and without distinction of orders, except when otherwise directed by the National Canons or the Diocesan Canons, or by law.

(f) **Quorum.** A quorum for a meeting of the Standing Committee shall consist of more than one half of the members of the Standing Committee; **provided** that at least two clerical members also must be present at any meeting in order to constitute a quorum. Proxies shall not be permitted to establish a quorum or in any vote of the Standing Committee at any such meeting.

(g) **Absences.** Unexcused absence by any member of the Standing Committee from more than two consecutive meetings of the Standing Committee shall constitute a resignation from the Standing Committee by such member. A member of the Standing Committee who shall be deemed to have resigned by reason of unexcused absences shall not be eligible to be elected or reelected until one year shall have elapsed following the resignation by reason of said absence.

**SECTION IV. Annual Report.** The Standing Committee shall submit an annual report to the Diocesan Convention of such of its official acts as do not pertain to the exercise of its functions as the Council of Advice to the Bishop. This report shall contain, among other things, consents to the election of Bishops, recommendations to the Bishop for ordinations to the Priesthood and to the Diaconate, recommendations to the Bishop for acceptances as candidates for Holy Orders, consents to encumber or alienate property, and its official acts as the Ecclesiastical Authority in the absence of the Bishop.